



## TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

KEN GIVENS  
COMMISSIONER

REGULATORY SERVICES  
PLANT CERTIFICATION

August 1, 2004

Dear Plant Producer or Plant Dealer/Landscaper:

Enclosed in this letter you will find information regarding the proper use of certificates and compliance documentation. Updates for Imported Fire Ant quarantined zones and Japanese beetle regulated areas are also included. These zones may change year to year.

**I. Responsibilities of plant producers or plant dealer/landscapers located outside the regulated zones:**

**A. Receiving shipments from a regulated zone:**

- i. *Proper compliance documentation (IFA requires an USDA shield), must be attached.*
- ii. *A copy of a valid inspection certificate from the state of origin, Department of Agriculture, must also accompany each shipment. Certificate number and expiration date must be included.*

**B. Receiving shipments from non-regulated zones:**

*A copy of a valid inspection certificate from the state of origin, Department of Agriculture, must also accompany each shipment. Certificate number and expiration date must be included.*

**C. Sending shipments:**

*A copy of your current valid Tennessee Department of Agriculture Certificate must be attached to your invoice.*

**II. Responsibilities of plant producers or plant dealer/landscapers located within a regulated zone:**

**A. Receiving shipments from zones regulated for the same pest:**

*A copy of a valid inspection certificate from the state of origin, Department of Agriculture, must also accompany each shipment. Certificate number and expiration date must be included.*

**B. Sending shipments within the same regulated zone:**

*A copy of your current valid Tennessee Department of Agriculture Certificate must be attached to your invoice.*

**C. Sending shipments outside the regulated zone:**

- i. *Provide compliance documentation (i.e. USDA shield or, TDA Shipping Notification Form, etc.) which shows strict adherence to the requirements of the compliance protocols (i.e. treatments, grass/weed management, etc.).*
- ii. *A copy of your current valid Tennessee Department of Agriculture Certificate must be attached to your invoice.*

**NOTE - Records must be maintained for a minimum of three years in order to demonstrate that plant shipments comply with these requirements.**

**NOTE - A copy of your current valid Tennessee Department of Agriculture Certificate must be displayed at each sales location, and plant installation work site.**

**For more information regarding Plant Certification visit our web site at  
<http://www.state.tn.us/agriculture/regulate/plants/>**

Ellington Agricultural Ctr., Box 40627, Nashville, TN 37204 Phone (615) 837-5137 Fax (615) 837-5246  
Walker.Haun@state.tn.us